Lovely Strange Dark

ULTRABAROQUE DEPROGRAMMER

BY ITOU SEIKOU & ASADA TORAO

CHAPTER 20

Scans & translations
Kalendel

Raw preps ayase
Editing Ximena
QC Ianu

lovelystrangedark.wordpress.com

Honk
Honk
Honk
WAS THERE AN ACCIDENT?
SEE THAT BIG HOSPITAL UP AHEAD?
YEAH.
IT WAS JUST CONDEMNED.

THE SQUATTER GANGS ZEROED IN ON IT, AND IT LOOKS LIKE A TURF WAR'S ABOUT TO GO DOWN
CHAPTER 20 TELE-DEPROGRAM 1

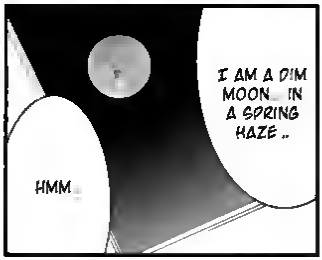
Splsh
I WONDER HOW LONG IT'S BEEN SINCE I'VE HAD A REAL BATH
NURSE SAKAKI GAVE YOU BATHS WHEN YOU WERE AT THE HOSPITAL
CHIKA'S GOT A BOYFRIEND.
HEY,
I WISH IT'D BEEN CHIKA
BUT HE'S A GUY

I haven't met him, but there's someone she talks to in private.
NO SURPRISE THERE
I GOT THE FEELING THAT'S WHY SHE EXILED US OVER HERE.
SO,
YOU CAN USE THE UNIT ACROSS THE HALL FOR TONIGHT.
NAH,
WE DON'T MIND STAYING WITH YOU ONE BIT.
I MIND!

TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST,
MY DAD OWNS BOTH UNITS ON THIS FLOOR.
THIS IS REALLY STARTING TO BUG ME..
NO WORRIES ABOUT THAT. HE'S GOT MULTIPLE HOUSES HERE AND ABROAD.
I DOUBT HE EVEN REMEMBERS HE OWNS THESE LITTLE CONDOS.
IF YOUR OLD MAN DROPS BY, I'M JUST GONNA TELL HIM I'M HIS NEW SON-IN-LAW.
NO WAY, YOU'RE THAT LOADED!?
HE'S MY STEP-FATHER, AND HE AND MY MOM ARE DIVORCED NOW.
WE'RE ONLY FAMILY ON PAPER.

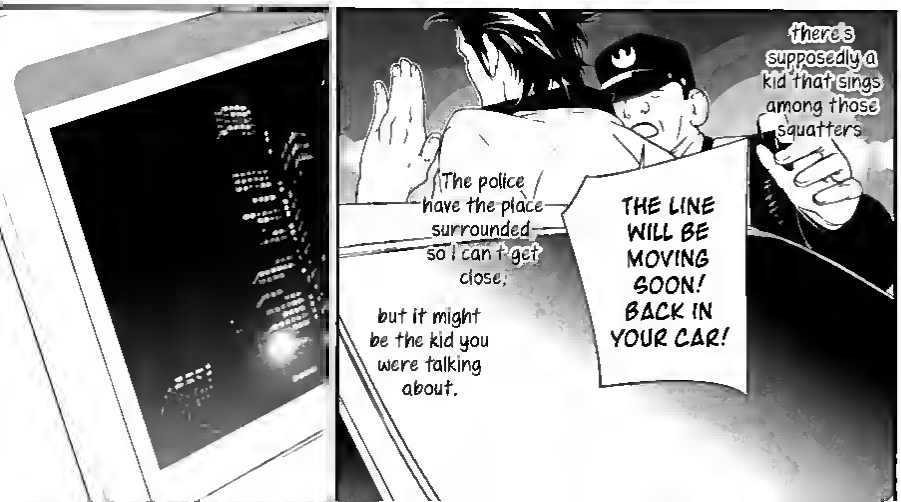
RRRrr
knock knock
GAH!
IS THAT MY PHONE?
DON'T THEY TEACH BATH MANNERS IN YOUR COUNTRY!?
HE SOUNDS LIKE A PLUTO-MANIAC TO ME.
IT'S PLUTO-MANIAC
CHIKA ALWAYS GETS IN A SOUR MOOD WHEN SHE TALKS ABOUT HER FAMILY. HAVE SOME TACT.

T/N: Sky in Japanese is Sora



WE MIGHT'VE FOUND NOBIRU!

Click
—So
HOOK


there's supposedly a kid that sings among those squatters
The police have the place surrounded— so I can't get close.
but it might be the kid you were talking about.
THE LINE WILL BE MOVING SOON! BACK IN YOUR CAR!

I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIM. THINK I SHOULD GIVE YUUZOU A CALL?
AT THIS HOUR?
THAT'S SO FAR AWAY!
AND DON'T TELL HER ABOUT NOBIRU YET
HUH? WHY NOT? SHE'S THE ONE MOST WORRIED ABOUT HIM
EXACTLY. SHE DIDN'T GET ANY SLEEP LAST NIGHT. SHE'S A MESS. LET'S NOT GET HER EVEN MORE WORRIED.
HIS TEXT SAID HE'D CALL US TOMORROW, RIGHT?
ANYWAY, GO ASK CHIKA IF SHE'S GOT ANY MORE PILLOWS

Ka?
Is PW controlling Nobiru?
Because of Nobiru's ability?
Can I just assume that Yuuzou's on our side?
Even if he is my old mentor's son, he used to be a washer.

!
Plop!
There's something I've gotta do before I have a talk with him.
Nobiru reappearing might be a trap
set by the guys who crashed me to lure me out.
blink
HEY, HEY...
WHAT HAPPENED TO MY MIND...?
THE AMOUNT OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCE RESTORED MIGHT ALLOW US TO DEPROGRAM WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.
IT'S NOT ALL BACK, OF COURSE.
BUT THE LOCK THE PROTECTOR PLACED ON IT IS NOW OPEN.
SO THAT'S WHAT THAT WAS ALL ABOUT!

I CALLED OUT FOR YOU! YELLED AND YELLED!
I DIDN'T NOTICE.
It suddenly felt like my whole body was being turned inside out.
and then I was falling through what seemed like someone's mind.
Oh, also!
I passed right behind you two!
SOME-ONE'S MIND?
YEAH.
WHAT, IS THIS SOMEONE'S MINDSCAPE?
I EVENTUALLY FIGURED IT OUT.

IT
WAS MY OWN MIND-SCAPE.
.....
.....
It was an awful dystopia.
And to think his job is all about weaponizing different
If you're thinking "dystopia" that's
JUST LISTEN TO ME.
STRETCHES A GREAT DESTOPIA.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO CALL THIS PLACE HERE A UTOPIA,
THEN UNDER YOUR FEET

THERE'S A DARK MINDSCAPE.
AND I SAW ANOTHER WORLD STRETCHING OUT EVEN UNDER THAT.
UNDER YOUR FEET, WHERE YOU PLANT YOUR FLOWERS AND PICKLE THINGS,
CONSCIOUSNESS
IS MADE UP OF MULTIPLE LAYERS, RIGHT?
...HE'S BACK TO HIS USUAL SELF.
GETTING AHEAD OF HIMSELF WITHOUT CONSULTING US.
! THAT'S IT! I CAN'T THINK LIKE THAT!
THIS LAYER WAS REPAIRED, BUT THE LAYER BELOW MIGHT HAVE BEEN PLANTED BY HOSTILES.
THAT'S ONE THING I'D DO IF I WERE THE WASHER.
KNOCK KNOCK
I'D GOUGE OUT A NEURO-CAVE.
WHAT WAS THERE?
— WHAT DID YOU SEE, DEPROGRAMMER?
I THINK GOING THROUGH THERE MIGHT GIVE US SOME IDEA HOW TO DEFEAT NOBIRU'S MINDSCAPE.
IF YOU TELL US, WE CAN MOVE THE PICKLES.
NO, WE CAN'T!

IT'S NOT LIKE ME TO WHINE LIKE THAT!
I'M GOING TO DIE.
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN WIN.
...SO WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?
JUST WATCH. I'VE GOT AN IDEA.

I JUST WANT TWO TICKETS ASAP.
I DON'T CARE BUSINESS OR FIRST CLASS, WHATEVER
FLYING TO_ YES.
click click click
WHHR
COME ON IN!
HUH?

YEAH, A STIMULUS IS TRANSMITTED BY ELECTRICAL IMPULSES FLOWING THROUGH THE SYNAPSES.
EXACTLY.
YOU'RE A MED STUDENT, SO YOU PROBABLY ALREADY KNOW
THAT THE SPACES BETWEEN NEURONS IN THE BRAIN ARE CALLED SYNAPSES.
THAT'S RIGHT. THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE ONE WAS CONSTRUCTED INSIDE MY MIND.
A NEURO-CAVE?
I'M THE MOON, AND YOU'RE THE SUN? WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT, DEPROGRAMMER?
SOUNDS LIKE YOU GOT THE BETTER DEAL.
"I AM A SPRING MOON IN A DIM NIGHT SKY." THINK OF IT AS TRAINING TO TURN YOU INTO A DEPROGRAMMER.
THE STRONGER THE ELECTRICAL IMPULSES ARE.
THE WIDER THE NEURON'S DENDRITIC SPINES BECOME,
NOW, IN MY LINE OF WORK, THE COUPLING OF THOSE SPINES
IS CALLED A NEURO-CAVE.
With a wide passageway, things get through easily.
Once a neuro-cave is formed, anything that resembles a stimulus can pass through.
YOU'RE ACTING PRETTY HIGH AND MIGHTY, CONSIDERING YOU'RE WEARING CHIKA'S CAST-OFFS.
Thanks.
And I'm playing!
If someone's had an extremely sad experience and formed a neuro-cave,
they'll feel sad no matter what they see in front of them.
That is, even happy or funny things
will get dragged into the neuro-cave, so they'll register as sadness.
WHEN STUFF LIKE THAT HAPPENS,
WE CAN DIG OUT THAT NEURO-CAVE TO FIX IT.

ARE YOU FOR REAL?
I THINK WE CAN PULL IT OFF.
OF COURSE, IT'S NOT LIKE WE'D USE A LASER SCALPEL.
OH! SO YOU MEAN YOU CAN GET ANOTHER DEPRO-GRAMMER TO DO IT FOR YOU!
Shug
IT'S A PSY OPERATION.
—— You can't be serious.
THIS ISN'T A JOKE. IS THERE PRECEDENT, DII?
NOT AS FAR AS I KNOW.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S POSSIBLE.

I CAN'T PREDICT IF YOU'D BE ABLE TO RETURN.
YOU COULD DO IT FOR ME, SORACHAI.
I TOLD YOU I AM THE SUN, AND YOU ARE THE MOON
I CAN MIRROR MYSELF ONTO YOU,
YOU COULD DEPROGRAM ME.
NO WAY! I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT DEPRO-GRAM-MING!
WHAT!? HOLD IT!
Shwg

DIVE INSIDE MY OWN MIND,
...YOU'RE ASKING ME TO GO TO MY DEATH.
AND DEPROGRAM MYSELF.

極彩魔術標解体屋

ウルトラバロック・デプログラマー

ultrabaroque deprogrammer